

Bethesda Episcopal Church
26 Washington Street
Saratoga Springs

The Last Sunday After the Epiphany
8am Holy Eucharist

14 February 2021
10:00 am - Holy Eucharist

Prelude

Adagio

Julius Reubke (1834-1858)

The Opening Acclamation

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit
People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn (at 10am): In Christ there is no East or West

Unison or harmony

1 In Christ there is no East or West, in
2 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what -
3 In Christ now meet both East and West, in

him no South or North, but one great fel - low -
c'er your race may be! Who serves my Fa - ther
him meet South and North, all Christ - ly souls are

ship of love through - out the whole wide earth.
as his child is sure - ly kin to me.
one in him, through - out the whole wide earth.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a bass line. The first system has three vocal parts (1, 2, 3) and a bass line. The second system has a single vocal line and a bass line. The third system has a single vocal line and a bass line. The lyrics are written below the vocal lines. The title 'Unison or harmony' is written above the first system. The lyrics are: '1 In Christ there is no East or West, in / 2 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what - / 3 In Christ now meet both East and West, in / him no South or North, but one great fel - low - / c'er your race may be! Who serves my Fa - ther / him meet South and North, all Christ - ly souls are / ship of love through - out the whole wide earth. / as his child is sure - ly kin to me. / one in him, through - out the whole wide earth.'

The Collect of The Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, who before the passion of thy only-begotten Son didst reveal his glory upon the holy mount: Grant unto us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The people are seated

The First Lesson

2 Kings 2:1-12

Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent." Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent." Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground. When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

The Lector concludes

The Word of the Lord.

The People respond

Thanks be to God

Gradual [Congregation says the verses in bold]

Psalm 50: 1-6

The LORD, the God of gods, has spoken; *

he has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, *

God reveals himself in glory.

Our God will come and will not keep silence; *
before him there is a consuming flame,
and round about him a raging storm.

**He calls the heavens and the earth from above *
to witness the judgment of his people.**

"Gather before me my loyal followers, *
those who have made a covenant with me
and sealed it with sacrifice."

**Let the heavens declare the rightness of his cause; *
for God himself is judge.**

The Second Lesson

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

If our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

The Lector concludes
The People respond

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The people stand, if able.

The Holy Gospel

Mark 9:2-9

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark
People Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Sermon

Fr Wallace

The Nicene Creed *Said by all, standing if you are able.*

I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and invisible;
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God;
begotten, not made;
being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried:
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory,
to judge both the quick and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord, and Giver of Life,
who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified;
who spake by the Prophets.
And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church;
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;
and I look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of The People *Pease kneel, if you are able.*

In peace, let us pray to the Lord saying, Lord in thy mercy

The people say **hear our prayer.**

For the Church, that all who have been baptized will be inspired by the Holy Spirit to give united witness to the Lord. Lord in thy mercy,
hear our prayer.

For all those who do not yet know Jesus as the beloved Son of God, that they may open their hearts and come to believe in the Good News. Lord in thy mercy
hear our prayer.

For peace with justice throughout the world, that all people will turn from hatred to love and from violence to peace. Lord in thy mercy
hear our prayer.

For a spirit of humility that, in our prayer and example, we may always point away from ourselves and towards the living Christ. Lord in thy mercy hear our prayer.

For the sick, the lonely, the housebound and the vulnerable that, in the midst of their suffering, they will experience the loving arms of Christ. Lord in thy mercy hear our prayer.

For the departed, that they may rest in the peace of Christ, Lord in thy mercy hear our prayer.

The Celebrant concludes with a prayer.

The people respond Amen.

The Celebrant introduces the Confession

The people say

Almighty God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
maker of all things, judge of all men:
We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins
and wickedness,
which we from time to time most grievously have committed,
by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty,
provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.
We do earnestly repent,
and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;
the remembrance of them is grievous unto us,
the burden of them is intolerable.
Have mercy upon us,
have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may ever hereafter
serve and please thee in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of thy Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Absolution

The Celebrant says

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace*Please stand, if you are able.*

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People And with thy spirit.

At The Offertory

Offertory on "Dennis"

Gordon Young (1919-1998)

The Great Thanksgiving*Please stand, if you are able.*

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And with thy spirit.
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them up unto the Lord.
Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
People It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface Of the Epiphany

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, thou hast caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of thy glory in the face of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sanctus and Benedictus Qui Venit *Sung by all*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of
 Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo -
 - ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Eucharistic Prayer*Please kneel, if you are able.*

The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer, which concludes

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**
And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of The Bread

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Prayer of Humble Access *Said by all*

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Agnus Dei *Sung by all*



O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a -



way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -



on us. O Lamb of God, that



ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have



mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of



God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the



world, grant us thy peace.

At The Communion

Psalm

Gordon Young (1919-1998)

The Post Communion Prayer*Said by all, kneeling if you are able.*

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Blessing

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always. Amen.

Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Please stand as the celebrant departs, if you are able.

Voluntary

Toccatà

Gordon Young (1919-1998)

Notices this Week

In our Intercessions for the Church and Parish this week, we pray for

Anglican Communion The Anglican Church of Canada

Albany Diocese St. Christopher's, Cobleskill, The Rev'd Dr. Ellen C. Neufeld

Our Parish Those travelling this weekend

We remember with thanksgiving those who are celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week. We also pray for those who have died recently and those whose year's mind falls at this time.

Due to Covid-19 regulations the windows in the church must remain open during services this winter. Please dress warmly.

Many thanks to Sharon Boyd for delivering offering envelopes to our church members who cannot make it to church at this time. This was quite a task and we are very grateful to Sharon for taking it on.

If you are shopping online remember to use **AMAZONSMILE** and designate Bethesda Episcopal Church as the charity to which you want Amazon to donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases. Go to <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/14-1364477>.

This Morning's Hymn, In Christ there is no east or west. As an aspiring African-American conservatory student, Harry Burleigh (1866-1949), native of Erie, PA and arranger of today's hymn tune, *McKee*, spent at least one summer in Saratoga Springs. He served wine at the Grand Union Hotel, and sang at Bethesda, under the tutelage of our Rector, Fr Joseph Carey. At the New York Conservatory, Burleigh became a collaborator with Antonin Dvorak on the New World Symphony, and a soloist at St. George's Episcopal Church and Temple Emmanu-el, NYC, positions he held for decades. He was awarded the NAACP Spingarn Medal for highest achievement in 1916, became a charter member of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, and was the 20th century's most significant composer/arranger of Negro spirituals. Much of his work remains standard in today's repertoire. "In Christ There is No East or West" is firmly rooted in that spiritual tradition.

The **Parish Office** is closed on Monday, the 15th of February in observance of President's Day.

Moving: The building where the church office has been located was sold making it necessary to relocate the office. Beginning February 1 the new location is 178 Elm Street, Suite 3, Saratoga Springs. The phone number remains the same, 518-584-5980.

Parish Activities for February

Wednesday, 17 February is the first day of Lent, commonly called Ash Wednesday. There will be Eucharists at 12pm and 6pm. All welcome.

Beginning Next Sunday *Lenten Musical Meditations*

Join us Sunday afternoons at 4pm during Lent for a series of contemplative recitals played by illustrious local concert artists. Classical guitar recitalist, Harry Pellegrin, opens the series next Sunday, February 21. We are also delighted to welcome well-known clarinetist Jonathan Greene, classical guitarist, Joel Brown (Distinguished Artist in Residence at Skidmore), jazz pianist, Chuck Lamb, and Oona Grady and James Gascoyne of local Celtic duo, *Drank the Gold*.

21 February	Harry Pellegrin, classical guitar
28 February	Jonathan Greene, clarinet
7 March	Chuck Lamb, jazz piano
14 March	Oona Grady and James Gascoyne, Celtic duo
21 March	Joel Brown, classical guitar

Freewill donation. Advanced Registration is required to reserve a seat for these recitals. Please visit the Bethesda web site (www.bethesdachurch.org) to register, or call the office.

Lent Study 2021: *Four Quartets*, T.S. Eliot Four Thursdays at 7pm: 25 February, 4 March, 11 March and 18 March.

TS Eliot is one of the greatest poets of the 20th century and an acute describer of the modern age. His greatest work is the *Four Quartets*, a series of four long poems that are deeply philosophical and theological, while also appealing to the universality of human experience, particularly the human experience of the Divine. In this course we will read Eliot's *Four Quartets* closely, while also attending to their spirituality and sense of God. Through an analysis of what the poems say and our own responses to them, we will use these poems as a path to come closer to God and gain a deeper insight into the unique spirituality expressed through poetry.

Our facilitator is Evan Craig Reardon. Evan is a poet, librarian, and archivist. He is completing an MA in English and MSLS at SUNY Albany where he focuses on poetry and poetics, and literary archives, respectively. He is a layperson in the Episcopal Diocese of Albany, and devoted to bringing poetry to as many people as possible.

You can purchase your own copy of the *Four Quartets*, or it may download a copy at: <http://www.paikassociates.com/pdf/fourquartets.pdf>

Please register via email at office@bethesdachurch.org or by calling the parish office: 518.584.5980.

In the Community

LifeWorks Community Action (formerly EOC). Thank you to all those who have already donated items. At this time LCA is in serious need of diapers (size 4 & 5), baby wipes, baby care products, soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, tooth brushes, hygiene products, razors and shaving cream. At this time they cannot collect clothing items. We will be delivering the donations to LifeWorks Community Action for distribution to those who need them in our community, and we will continue this collection drive during the pandemic. Thanks again for your generosity.

Direct Care Volunteers Needed The Gateway House of Peace, and end of life home that provides hospice care and emotional support to families managing with the last few months of life, is in great need of licensed or retired health care volunteers capable of providing direct care. Other volunteers are needed as well, for facility management and event planning support. Please contact Executive Director, Bethany Gonyea at bgonyea@gatewayhouseofpeace.org for more information

Weekly Services

Monday – Friday	Midday Prayers	12pm
Wednesday	Eucharist	12pm
Saturday	Eucharist (Vigil of Sunday) Rite II	5pm
Sunday	Mattins	7:20am
	Eucharist	8am & 10am
	Children’s Program	10am

Guidelines for Attending Church

Welcome to Bethesda Church. Thank you for joining us for worship today. For your safety, we ask you to follow the guidelines below when attending our services.

Social distancing protocols will be observed at all times. Please do not attend church if you are currently ill or have been in contact recently with someone who is ill.

- ◆ A mask is required at all times. If you require a mask, an usher will provide one for you.
- ◆ Upon entry, please use the provided hand sanitizer.
- ◆ The ushers will record your name and phone number upon entry.
- ◆ "You must keep 6-feet between you and others not of your household when entering the Church and throughout the time you are in the Church."
- ◆ Pews are color coded for each service, 8am use blue pews, 10am use yellow pews.
- ◆ Bathrooms are currently for emergencies only.
- ◆ At the exchange of the Peace, please do not leave your pew.
- ◆ At the distribution of Communion, remain in your pew until an usher invites you to move to the chancel step.
- ◆ At the end of the service, only move when directed to do so by an usher.
- ◆ Take your bulletin home or place it in the wastebasket at the door.

Financial gifts for the ministry of Bethesda Church are gratefully received. Please place your donation in the collection plates at the rear of the church. We appreciate your support.

Thank you for your co-operation and understanding.

Fr Charles Wallace, Priest in Charge
Barbara Latzko, Parish Administrator
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